

USAID HIV/AIDS E-Newsletter

April 14, 2003

This newsletter provides regular updates on the U.S. Agency for International Development's Office of HIV/AIDS and partner activities to prevent and mitigate HIV/AIDS across the developing world. We encourage you to circulate this publication to colleagues.

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NEWS

Global Fund Calls for Round 3 Proposals

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria recently issued its third call for proposals. The proposals must be submitted to the Fund by May 31, 2003. The Technical Review Panel will review proposals in late July and then submit its recommendations to the Global Fund board, which will consider them in September. The Fund has developed three key documents: "Call for Proposals," "Guidelines for Proposals," and "Proposal Form." They are available at: www.globalfundatm.org/proposals.html.

Zambia Gets \$42 Million to Fight AIDS

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria approved \$42 million earlier this month to combat AIDS and tuberculosis in Zambia. This commitment is the largest to a single country to date. The Global Fund also signed agreements with Ethiopia, Ukraine, and Moldova worth \$22.2 million. The United States, in part through USAID, is a major contributor to the Global Fund. For details about these Global Fund commitments and others, visit: <http://www.globalfundatm.org/index.html>.

World AIDS Campaign 2003 Continues to Focus on Stigma and Discrimination

The World AIDS Campaign and World AIDS Day this year continues to focus on stigma and discrimination, under the slogan "Live and Let Live." The campaign aims to encourage people to break the silence and barriers to obtaining effective HIV/AIDS prevention and care. In 2002, the focus was on the individual, while this year, the campaign targets organizations. For information about campaign messages and ideas for action, visit: <http://www.unaids.org/worldaidscampaign>.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Upcoming Horizons Symposium on Care and Support to Take Place in Washington

Horizons will sponsor a half-day meeting, "Strengthening HIV/AIDS Care and Support in the Home, Community, and Clinic: Findings from Horizons Operations Research," May 13, 2003, at the Kaiser Family Foundation Conference Center, in Washington, DC. The presentations and discussion will focus on mobilizing key actors—youth, people living with HIV/AIDS, health providers, the private sector—and resources to provide and scale up care and support services. For more information, go to: www.popcouncil.org/horizons/mtgs/dccrsprrt03.html.

IAEN Face-to-Face Conference 2003: Current Issues in the Economics of HIV/AIDS

The International AIDS Economics Network (IAEN), together with USAID, the Kaiser Family Foundation, POLICY Project, UNAIDS, World Bank, and Forum One Communications, will hold its 11th Face-to-Face

Conference in Washington, DC, April 24–25, 2003. This conference will bring IAEN professionals together to participate in panels, discussions, and presentations, all specific to the most recent developments in the field of AIDS and economics. For more information, visit:
<http://www.iaen.org/conferences/f2f2003/>.

Synergy's HIV/AIDS Program Planning Course Begins July 2003

The third annual “Essentials of HIV/AIDS Program Planning” course, conducted by The Synergy Project and funded by USAID, will take place July 27–August 2, 2003, in Seattle, Washington. The course is designed to assist program managers and researchers working in resource-constrained settings to formulate effective intervention strategies for HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections; address priorities for rapid scale-up; use research-to-practice approaches to inform programming decisions; gain stakeholder commitment; and establish systems for monitoring and evaluation. The course registration deadline is May 15, 2003. For more information or to complete an application, go to:
http://www.synergyaids.com/tc_dev.htm.

Central American AIDS Meeting Set for October 2003

The 3rd Central American AIDS Congress (CONCASIDA III) will take place October 14–17, 2003, in Panama City, Panama. For details, see: <http://www.concasida.org>.

RECENT EVENTS

Horizons Care and Support Seminar Draws Broad Participation in India

More than 100 participants from the National AIDS Control Organization, major Indian government agencies, USAID, international organizations, and nongovernmental organizations convened on March 28 in New Delhi for a seminar entitled “What Works in HIV/AIDS Care and Support?” sponsored by Horizons. The gathering, one of the first major national events focusing on care and support, highlighted four Horizons studies based in India and included discussions of a broad range of care and support issues. Find out more at: www.popcouncil.org/horizons/mtgs/indiadissem03.html.

U.S. Senate Committee Hears about AIDS Transmission in Africa

A Webcast and transcript of a U.S. Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee hearing, “Transmission of Global AIDS in Africa,” on March 27 features a discussion of recent assertions that unsafe medical practices, rather than heterosexual sex, might be the primary mode of HIV transmission in Africa. To view the archived Webcast and transcript, go to:
<http://www.kaisernet.org/healthcast/help/27mar03>

AIDS Officer Delivers Testimony on Capital Hill

Global Health Council's Sophia Mukasa Monico, senior AIDS officer, delivered testimony on March 20, 2003, before the U.S. House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee on the global problems of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria. To read the full testimony, go to:
<http://www.globalhealth.org/news/article/2918>.

PUBLICATIONS

HIV/AIDS and Development Report Reviews USAID's Progress in Africa

USAID convened the “2nd Multisectoral Meeting on Rethinking HIV/AIDS & Development: Review of USAID's Progress in Africa,” in March 2002. The meeting included a report that discusses the impact of high and growing HIV/AIDS prevalence on development in Africa. Working groups were formed along sectoral lines (education; natural resources management; economic growth; health; agriculture; and democracy, governance, crisis, and conflict) to recommend future actions. It is available at:
http://www.dec.org/pdf_docs/PNACR700.pdf.

HIV Test Kits Fact Sheets Now Available

USAID's DELIVER project, implemented by John Snow International, has developed fact sheets on 11 HIV test kits commonly used in developing country programs. The fact sheets include information on product specifications, packaging, shelf life, and storage requirements, all-important for selection, forecasting, procurement, and inventory management of HIV tests. The fact sheets can be downloaded at: http://deliver.jsi.com/2002/archives/hivaids/test_kits/index.cfm.

Global AIDSLink Issues Special Edition on Communication and Peer Education

The April/May 2003 issue of "AIDSLink," highlights peer education in HIV/AIDS prevention and how strategic communications are bridging information gaps. Look for articles on effective peer education programs in Zambia, Vietnam, Los Angeles, Uganda and Ethiopia, plus an in-depth study on "Overcoming AIDS Stigma and Media Fatigue" by Beatrice Spadacini of the World Bank. To view the current issue, go to: <http://www.globalhealth.org/publications/contents.php3?id=1&issue=79>.

POLICY Project and South Africa's National Department of Health Release Reports

In 1999, the POLICY Project, in an effort to alleviate the influx on AIDS patients to hospitals in South Africa, assisted seven hospices to incorporate the Integrated Community-Based Home Care model into their operational activities. This report documents the critical elements of the model and reflects on the experiences of those working in the field. It is available at: <http://www.policyproject.com/1>.

The South Africa Civil Military Alliance, which receives technical assistance from the POLICY Project, was the first organization of its kind in Southern Africa and it combines the civilian and military populations in the fight against HIV/AIDS. An evaluation of the Alliance is available at: <http://www.policyproject.com/2>.

FANTA Documents Work in HIV/AIDS and Mitigation

"HIV/AIDS Mitigation: Using What We Already Know" presents a range of promising practices derived from experiences in food security and development programs that can be applied to HIV/AIDS mitigation efforts. Produced by the Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance Project (FANTA) and supported by USAID, the publication is fifth in FANTA's Technical Notes series, which are on view at: www.fantaproject.org.

Family Health International Releases Three Publications

Family Health International's (FHI) IMPACT project, together with the Program for Appropriate Technology in Health, has produced "Developing Materials on HIV/AIDS/STIs for Low Literate Audiences," a guide which recognizes that many HIV/AIDS concepts are difficult to convey to low-literate audiences. This 153-page publication relies heavily on illustrations, is printed in a large typeface, and features simple, clear explanations. The document is available at: <http://www.fhi.org/en/aids/impact/impactpdfs/lowliteracyguide.pdf>

FHI, with USAID support and in partnership with UNAIDS and others, has published "Estimating the Size of Populations at Risk for HIV: Issues and Methods." Population size estimation is the basis for national estimates of people living with HIV in low-level and concentrated HIV epidemics, and is crucial for planning interventions and monitoring their coverage. The 56-page report discusses different methods, includes practical examples, and outlines exercises for planning training sessions in population size estimation. The document is available at: <http://www.fhi.org/en/aids/impact/impactpdfs/popsizesizecontent.pdf>.

FHI/Nigeria has a series of assessment reports evaluating the risk settings and populations in the Nigerian states of Anambra, Kano, Lagos, Nasarawa, and Taraba. These reports were used as baseline studies and a guide for FHI's HIV/AIDS comprehensive programming activities in 12 states in Nigeria. The reports are now posted at: <http://www.fhi.org/en/cntr/africa/nigeria/nigeriaofc.html>.

Four New Resources Added to YouthLens Series

YouthLens, published by Family Health International as part of its YouthNet program, is a series of research briefs that summarize the latest information on key issues regarding reproductive health and HIV prevention among youth. To view the most recent documents visit:

<http://www.fhi.org/en/youth/youthnet/pubs/lens.html>.

Proceedings of HIV/AIDS Workshop Now Online

USAID and the Partnership to Cut Hunger and Poverty in Africa presented a daylong workshop on "HIV/AIDS and Agriculture, Food Security, and Nutrition: Understanding the Linkages and Program Implications" in January 2003, in Washington, DC. A record of the event, including publications, workshop summary, attendee contact information, and more, is featured at:

http://www.iris.umd.edu/PPC_IDEAS/HIV_AIDS/index.asp.

Meeting Explores Ways to Integrate Gender-Based Violence into HIV Programs

"Gender-Based Violence and Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS: Summary of a Technical Update" is the product of a daylong session, hosted by USAID's Interagency Gender Working Group. Held May 1, 2002, and attended by more than 130 people, the Technical Update focused specifically on intimate partner violence. The summary is available at: http://www.dec.org/pdf_docs/PNACR624.pdf.

ONLINE RESOURCES

Synergy Project Enhances Website with New Information-Sharing Features

The Synergy Project Website now offers enhanced features to share and disseminate USAID and USAID-funded HIV/AIDS information and technical publications. Users can simultaneously search all 53 USAID-funded HIV/AIDS partner Websites, submit project publications and research to the searchable Online Library of 2,800 HIV/AIDS documents, submit news and announcements to the homepage, and order USAID print publications online. USAID implementing partners can submit their publications and announcements to the new Synergy HIV/AIDS technical and programming resources Website at:

<http://www.synergyaids.com>.

The Synergy Project publishes this newsletter on behalf of USAID'S Office of HIV/AIDS. To subscribe, click on <mailto:listserv@list.s-3.com?Body=SUBSCRIBE%20SUBSCRIBE>. To unsubscribe click on <mailto:listserv@list.s-3.com?Body=UNSUBSCRIBE%20SUBSCRIBE>, or go to www.synergyaids.com/newsletter.asp. For those without Web access, to subscribe or unsubscribe, send an e-mail to: listserv@list.s-3.com with "subscribe subscribe" or "unsubscribe subscribe" in the body of the e-mail.

USAID's Office of HIV/AIDS welcomes newsletter submissions from USAID Missions and partner agencies. Send information to enews@tytassociates.com by the 2nd of the month.